REMARKS

In the Non-Final Office Action dated August 1, 2006, claims 1-4, 8-28, 30-32, 35-39, 41-43 and 45-57 are pending in the application, claims 8, 10, 17, 18, 25, 30-32, 35-37, 41-43 and 45-47 are objected for informalities, and claims 1-4, 9, 11-16, 19-24, 26-28, 38, 39 and 48-57 are rejected. The Examiner objected to claims 8, 10, 17, 18, 25, 30-32, 35-37, 41-43 and 45-47 as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 10, 31, 32, 42 and 43 to improve form and cancel claims 17, 35-37 and 45-47 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter in claims 8, 10, 17, 18, 25, 30-32, 35-37, 41-43 and 45-47. Applicants amend independent claims 1, 26, 38, 49, and 54 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 17. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of the objections to claim 1, 26, 38, 49, and 54. Claims 2–25 and 48 depend from claim 1, claims 27-37 depend from claim 26, claims 39-47 and 57 depend from claim 38, claims 50-53 depend from claim 49, and claim 55-56 depend from claim 54. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of the objections to these claims, as well.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. BBNT-P01-155 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: November 1, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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